

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 095875  
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:NEA/ARN: WNHOWELL

APPROVED BY:NEA/ARN:MDRAPER

-----002584 140213Z /75

O 140137Z APR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 095875

FOLLOWING REPEAT DAMASCUS 2074 ACTION SECSTATE DIA WASHDC  
CIA SECDEF USCINCEUR/FCJ-2 APR 13.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 2074

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: MILI, MOPS, SY, PINS, SOPN

SUBJECT: US RADIOACTIVE ELECTRONIC DEVICE REPORTEDLY  
UNCOVERED BY SARG

1. SYRIAN TELEVISION AND PRESS APRIL 12-13 CARRIED LARGE  
FRONTPAGE PICTURES OF ELECTRONIC DEVICE PURPORTEDLY MANUFACTURED  
IN US AND EQUIPPED WITH "NUCLEAR CELLS" WHICH WAS DISCOVERED  
AT SITE WHERE 12 OR MORE SYRIAN OFFICERS AND CIVILIANS WERE  
KILLED BY BOOBYTRAPPED ISRAELI RADIO RECEIVER IN APRIL. PRESS  
SAYS DEVICE WAS CONNECTED TO MAIN COAXIAL CABLE LINKING  
AMMAN AND DAMASCUS AND HAD CAPABILITY TO TAP INTO TELEPHONE  
CONVERSATIONS. REPORTS SAY DEVICE WAS ONE OF TWO FOUND  
INSTALLED A FEW DAYS BEFORE ITS DISCOVERY APRIL 1. PRESS  
WARNS THAT ISRAEL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL CONSEQUENCES OF  
THIS "INTERNATIONALLY PROHIBITED" ACTION.

2. WITH DATT, WHO IS EXPERT IN THESE MATTERS, ABSENT WE HAVE  
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NO CAPABILITY FOR IDENTIFYING DEVICE FROM PRESS PHOTOS. DEVICE  
IS CIRCULAR CANISTER APPROXIMATELY TWO FEET IN DIAMETER  
AND TWO FEET HIGH FITTED WITH EIGHT RECTANGULAR FINS AT  
LEAST FIVE AND POSSIBLY SIX OF WHICH EXTEND FROM THE  
BOTTOM OF THE CANISTER TO ABOUT ONE FOOT ABOVE THE TOP  
OF THE CANISTER. THREE OF THE EXTENDED FINS HAVE WHAT  
APPEAR TO BE LIFTING HOLES ON UPPER PART OF FIN. TOP

OF CANNISTER HAS FOUR SEMI-RIGID CABLES OR WIRES EXTENDING ABOUT SIX FEET FROM DEVICE IN GROUP AND LINKED AT THE END BY A SEPARATOR WHICH KEEPS CABLES ABOUT TWO INCHES APART FROM EACH OTHER. IN ADDITION THERE APPEAR TO BE FOUR FLEXIBLE CABLES EXTENDING FROM THE TOP OF THE CANISTER WHICH WERE APPARENTLY LINKED TO AT LEAST FOUR RECTANGULAR BOXES OF VARIOUS SIZES. ONE OF THE BOXES HAS THREE VISABLE TERMINALS AT ONE END TWO OF WHICH ARE MARKED P3 AND P4. NO OTHER MARKINGS ARE APPARENT. HOPE DEPARTMENT CAN IDENTIFY DEVICE FROM THIS DESCRIPTION.

3. IT IS POSSIBLE I WILL BE CALLED IN TO RECEIVE PROTEST OR TO EXPLAIN US INVOLVEMENT. WOULD APPRECIATE ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. IS DEVICE US MANUFACTURE? WAS IT SUPPLIED TO ISRAEL? DOES IT HAVE RADIOACTIVE COMPONENTS? DOES IT CONSTITUTE DANGER TO HUMAN LIFE IF IMPROPERLY HANDLED? I DO NOT FEEL IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO RAISE MATTER UNLESS I AM CALLED IN. IN ADDITION, SINCE QUESTIONS MAY BE RAISED PUBLICLY WOULD APPRECIATE PRESS GUIDANCE THIS SUBJECT. THIS MORNING IN DAMASCUS  
WEIZMAN'S DENIALS OF  
IDF INVOLVEMENT IN PLANTING THESE DEVICES SOUND PRETTY HOLLOW.  
PELLETREAU UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, EQUIPMENT, SURVEILLANCE, MONITORING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978STATE095875  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** NEA/ARN: WNHOWELL  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X2  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780160-0070  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2968542  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US RADIOACTIVE ELECTRONIC DEVICE REPORTEDLY UNCOVERED BY SARG  
**TAGS:** MILI, MOPS, PINS, SOPN, SY, US  
**To:** TEL AVIV  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/64b201b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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